

Guidelines and What to Expect As We Continue to Resume Services

As we, at Saint Mark, continue to resume services this weekend, things continue to not be as we have been accustomed to in the past. We will be operating under the directives of the Diocese, State and City Government. The directives are necessary, and everyone's cooperation and understanding is appreciated. It is out of charity for one another that any and all guidelines concerning public worship be implemented that might impose a sacrifice upon one another for the good of all.

Important Notes:

All attendees, above two years of age, must wear a facemask throughout all services. (See note below regarding receiving Communion.) Everyone is asked to bring their own mask. A limited number will be available for those who may forget them.

Everyone is requested to be mindful of maintaining proper Social Distancing of at least 6' from each other at all times.

While everyone will be happy to see each other, no socializing or gathering in the Narthex or elsewhere in the Church or Parish Hall can take place. Any socializing should be done in the parking lot areas.

Everyone is asked to limit the use of restrooms as much as possible. Access will be limited to only one person or family at a time. Rather than using the restrooms to wash your hands before and after Mass, please use hand sanitizer. Hand sanitizer dispensers have been added throughout the Church and Parish Center for your convenience.

For safety reasons, it is recommended that water fountains not be used, but rather bottled water be brought with you, if necessary.

Occupancy in the Church will be limited to an estimate of less than 100 (families/individuals) with limited overflow in the Parish Center of 35 (families/individuals). Once the capacity is met no one else will be allowed to enter.

The dispensation to attend Mass is still in effect. Those who are in a high-risk category due to age and/or health issues, live with someone who is high-risk, or are feeling ill, or fearing exposure should not attend. Please use prudence and common sense.

We will continue to follow the Church's teaching regarding Spiritual Communion.

Mass will continue to be live streamed and made available for viewing beginning at 4:00 p.m., Saturday, on the Saint Mark Website, Facebook and You Tube.

Effective June 1:

- **Beginning June 3**, there will be a 12:00 p.m. Weekday Mass held in the Church on Wednesdays. As participation and conditions warrant, Weekday Mass will be expanded to other days.
- **Beginning Saturday, June 6, 4:00 p.m.**, with the rising temperatures, Saturday distribution of Holy Communion will be by drive-through using the two Porticos. This will allow individuals and/or families to remain in their air-conditioned cars while waiting in line. There will be a minister of Holy Communion on each side of the car as it approaches the Portico. Each person in the car, unless disabled, should step out of the car wearing his or her facemask. Once you have received Communion in your hand and have said "Amen", remove your mask, place the host in your mouth and then put your mask on again.

Prior to distribution, prayers and other materials will be made available to everyone as preparation for receiving Holy Communion. Should you not receive the information prior to Saturday, please pray the Lord's Prayer together by all in the car.

- **Sunday Mass - 10:30 a.m.**
 - Facemasks are required.
 - The Church Main and Transept doors will be open for access into the Church.
 - The middle door from the Narthex into the Nave will be closed with a "No entry" sign posted. Access will be only through the two side doors.
 - The main aisle will not be used to enter the pews, only the two side aisles will be used.
 - Parishioners will be escorted/directed by the Ushers to available seats and directed to move to the furthest open point available in the pew. This is necessary to maintain proper distancing by avoiding people from having to pass over each other.
 - Only every third pew in the Nave and Transepts will be used for seating.
 - The pews will be taped off and/or signed to communicate the following:
 - Not available for seating - "no entry"
 - Nave pews - space for 3 people or a larger family
 - Transept pews - space for 4 people or a larger family.
 - Missals will be available for those wishing to use them. After Mass, you do not need to return it. You may take it home and bring it back for future use.
 - No singing by the congregation will take place, and therefore, the Music Issues will not be available.
 - Collection will be taken up by Ushers utilizing the empty pews in front of each seated row in a serpentine fashion. The basket will not be passed from person to person.
 - Communion will only be given in the hand, not on the tongue, and will be brought to each person either by Fr. Joe, Deacon Phil or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. As with the Collection, Communion will be distributed from the empty pew in front of each seated row. Once you have received Communion in your hand and have said "Amen", remove your mask, place the host in your mouth and then put your mask on again.
 - Dismissal -
 - The center and two side aisles in the Nave will be used to exit the Church.
 - All doors from the Nave into the Narthex will be open for exiting.
 - The Transept doors will be available for those seated in the Transepts.
 - Please maintain proper social distancing when exiting and continue to move outside of the Church. Do not gather in the Narthex or other areas of the Church.

We will continue to review and adjust these processes as conditions change. We thank you for your understanding and cooperation.